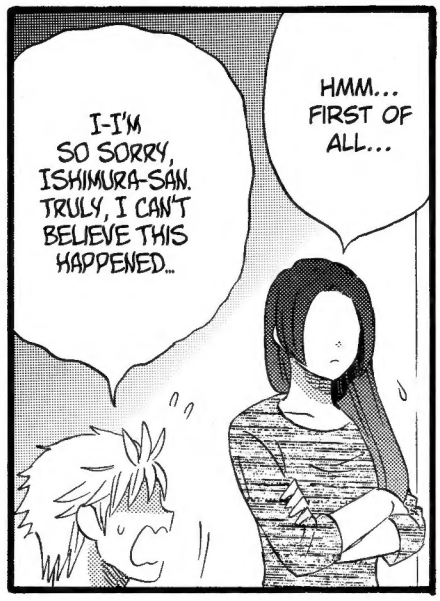
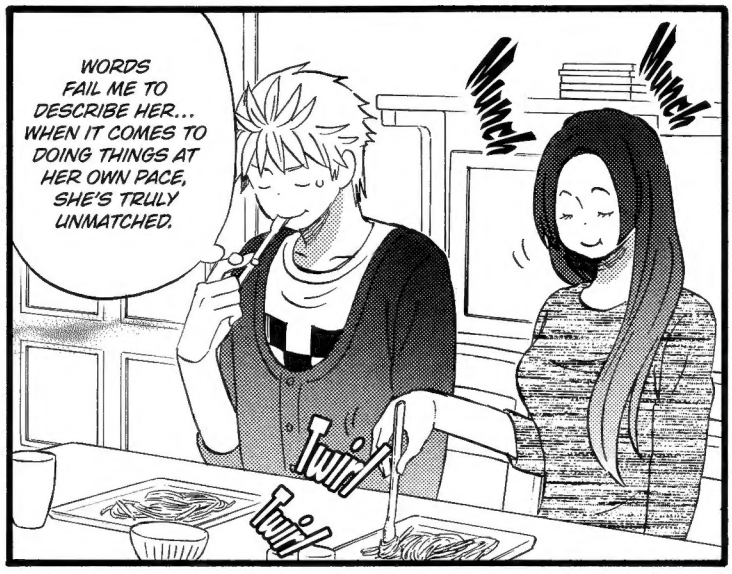
Chapter 29: Ishimura-san Thinks About the Future

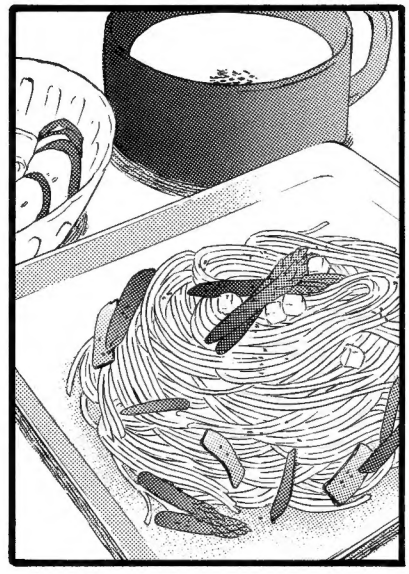
PREVIOUSLY ON LA LA LA: KIRISHIMA-KUN'S EX-GIRLFRIEND REVEALS THAT SHE IS PREGNANT!
BECAUSE IT'S KIRISHIMA-KUN'S CHILD, SHE DECLARED THAT SHE'LL GIVE BIRTH AND LEAVE THE BABY IN HIS CARE. HOWEVER...
UNBEKNOWNST TO KIRISHIMA, THE PREGNANCY IS A SHAM.

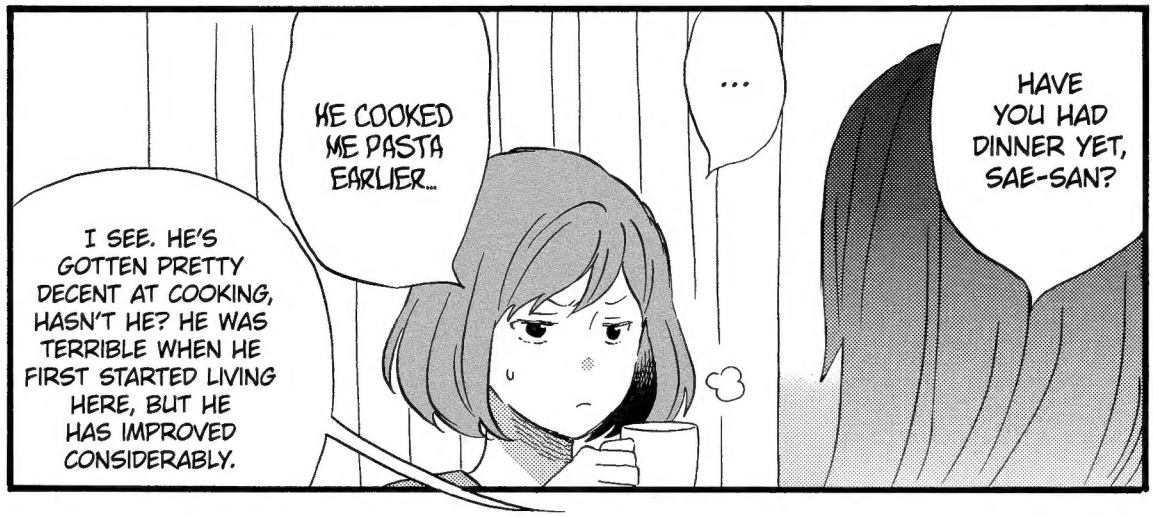
I'LL LIVE HERE UNTIL THE CHILD IS BORN!
Hmph!
IT'S YOUR BABY, SO TAKE GOOD CARE OF US!
WHA...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THAT'S RIDICULOUS...
SHUT UP!
IT'S YOUR CHILD. TAKE RESPONSI-BILITY!
I'M NOT SAYING THAT I WON'T, BUT...

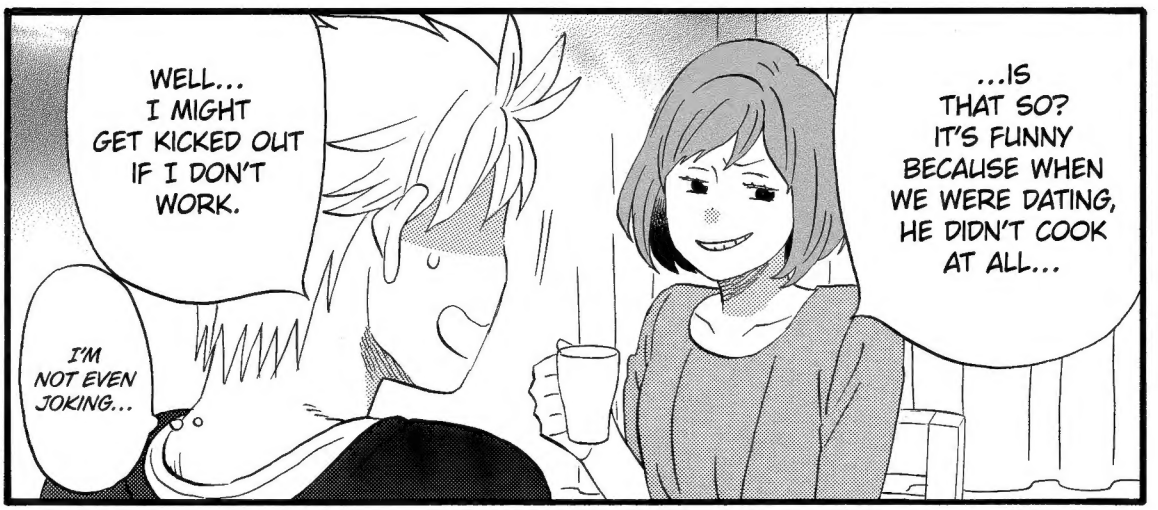
I NEED DINNER.
I'm starving.

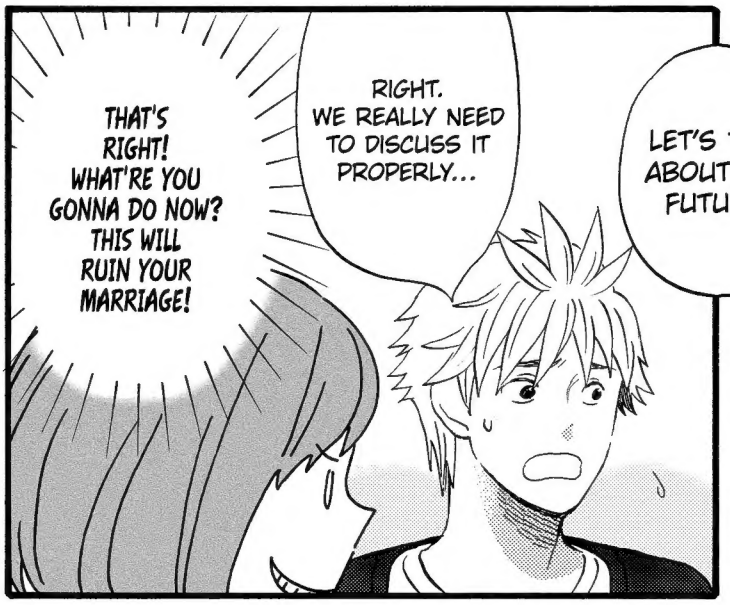

HMM... FIRST OF ALL...
I-I'M SO SORRY, ISHIMURA-SAN. TRULY, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HAPPENED...

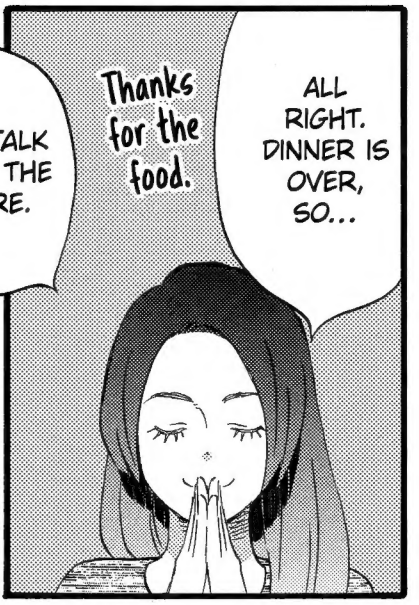

WORDS FAIL ME TO DESCRIBE HER... WHEN IT COMES TO DOING THINGS AT HER OWN PACE, SHE'S TRULY UNMATCHED.
Munch
Munch
Twirl
Twirl

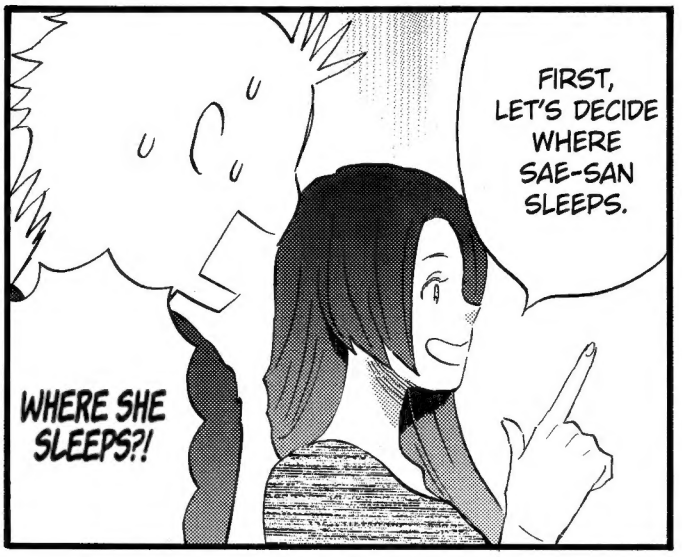


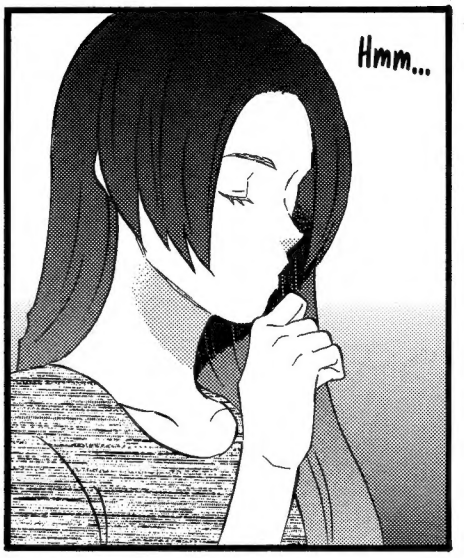

HAVE YOU HAD DINNER YET, SAE-SAN?
...
HE COOKED ME PASTA EARLIER...
I SEE. HE'S GOTTEN PRETTY DECENT AT COOKING, HASN'T HE? HE WAS TERRIBLE WHEN HE FIRST STARTED LIVING HERE, BUT HE HAS IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY.

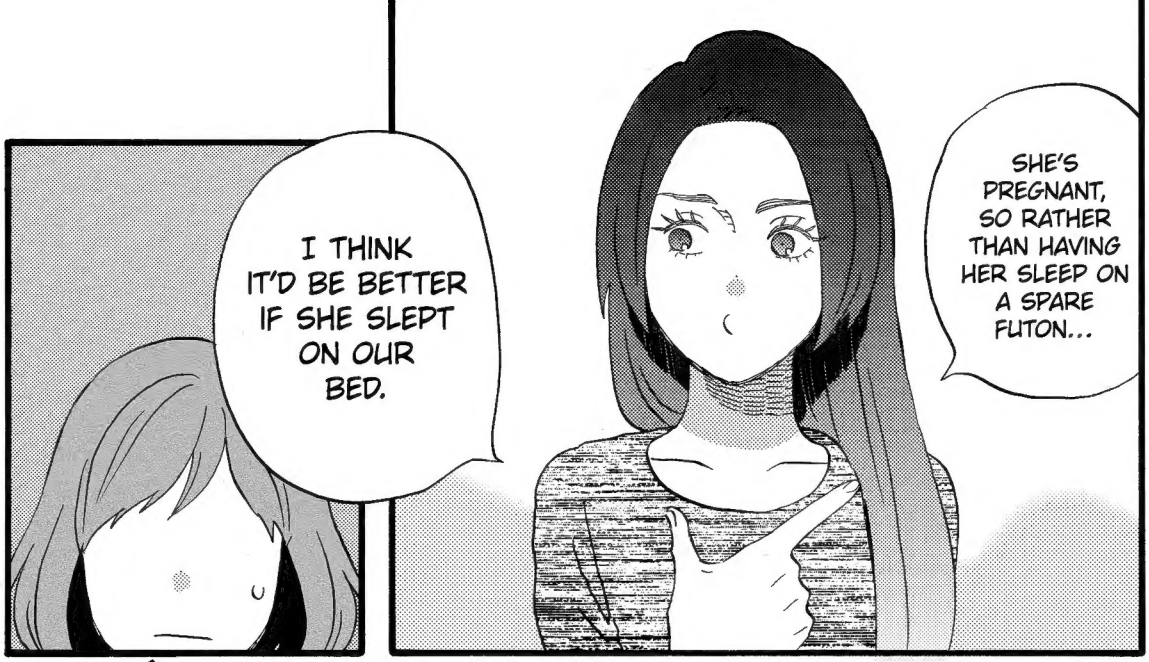

WELL... I MIGHT GET KICKED OUT IF I DON'T WORK.
I'M NOT EVEN JOKING...
...IS THAT SO? IT'S FUNNY BECAUSE WHEN WE WERE DATING, HE DIDN'T COOK AT ALL...


THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO NOW? THIS WILL RUIN YOUR MARRIAGE!
RIGHT. WE REALLY NEED TO DISCUSS IT PROPERLY...
LET'S TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE.

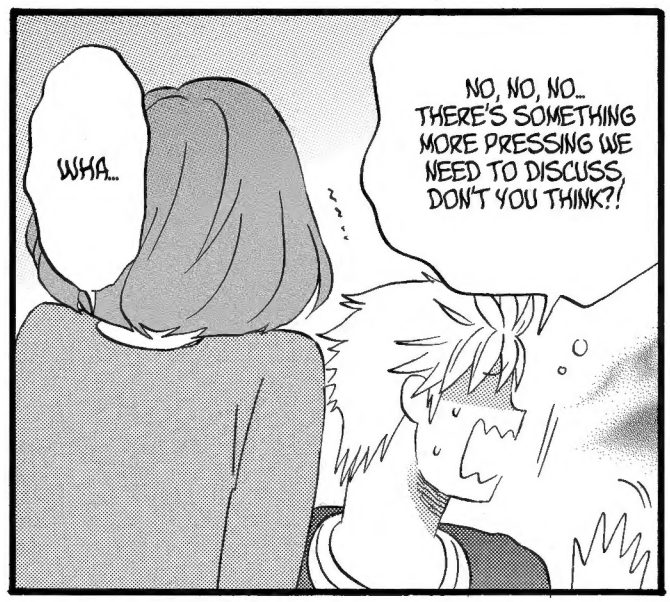

Thanks for the food.
ALL RIGHT. DINNER IS OVER, SO...

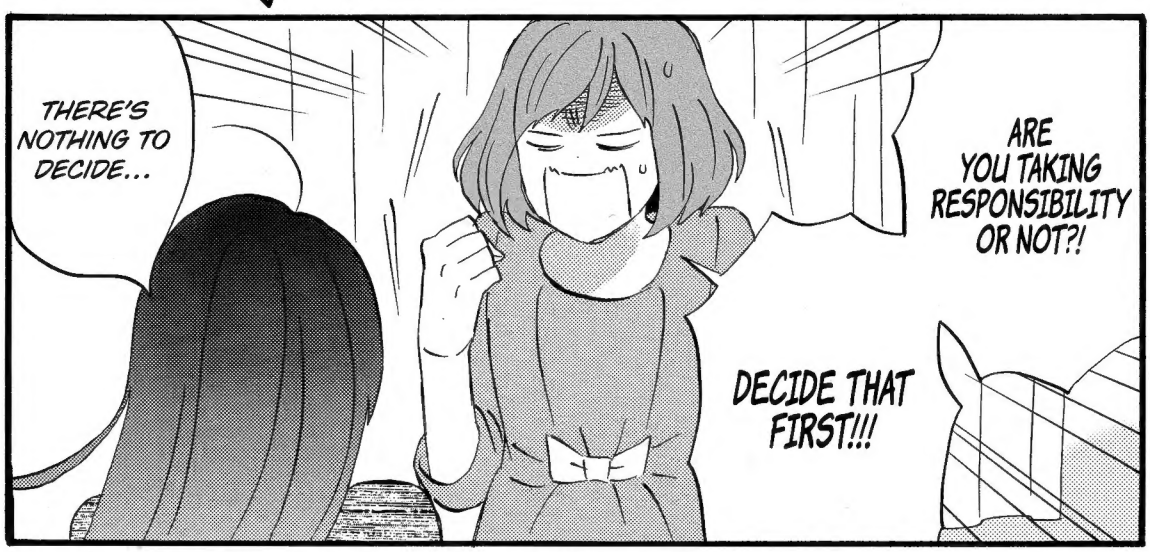

FIRST, LET'S DECIDE WHERE SAE-SAN SLEEPS.
WHERE SHE SLEEPS?!

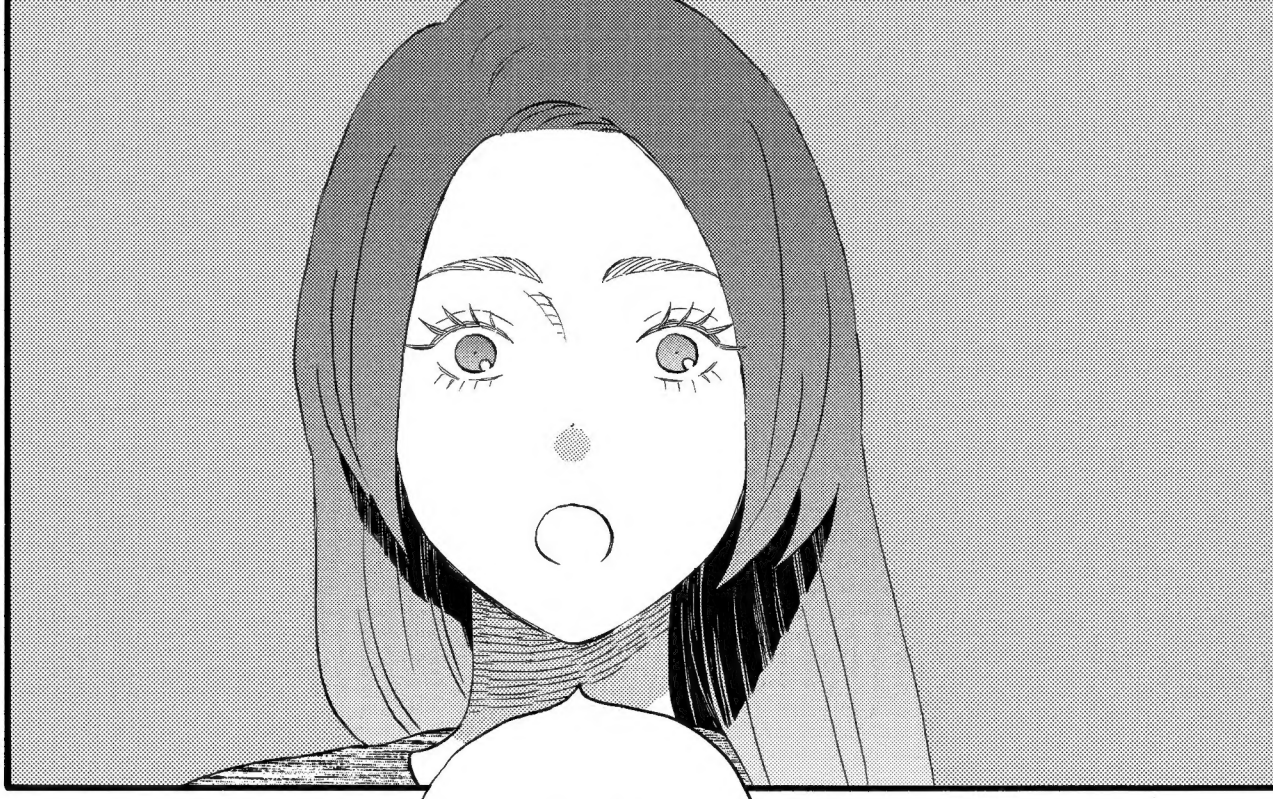

Hmm...


I THINK IT'D BE BETTER IF SHE SLEPT ON OUR BED.
SHE'S PREGNANT, SO RATHER THAN HAVING HER SLEEP ON A SPARE FUTON...

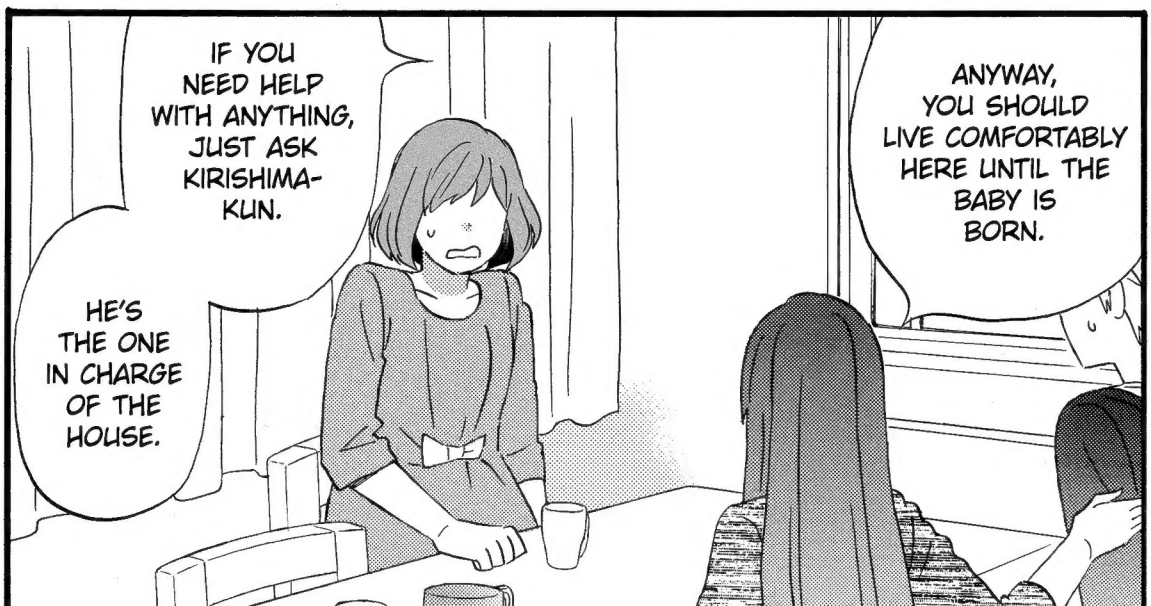
WHAT ABOUT THE BABY?!
Bang

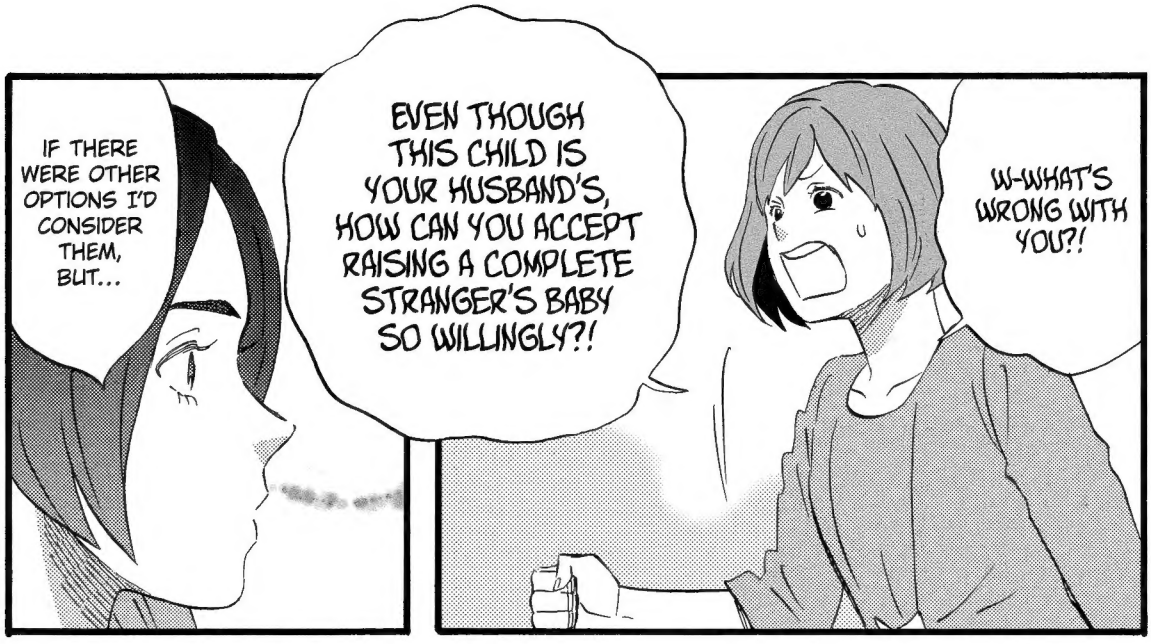

WHA...
NO, NO, NO... THERE'S SOMETHING MORE PRESSING WE NEED TO DISCUSS, DON'T YOU THINK?!

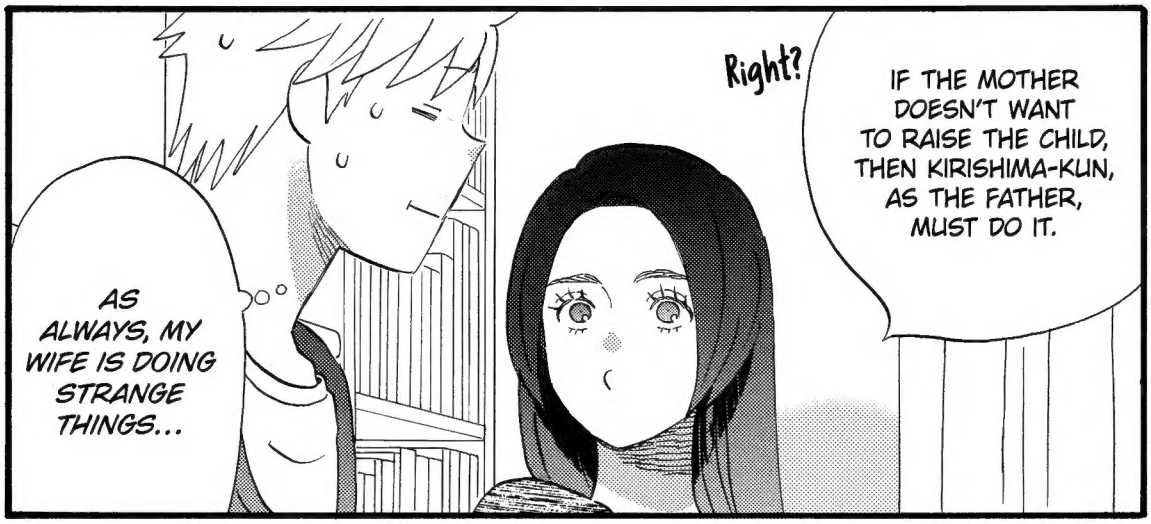

THERE'S NOTHING TO DECIDE...
ARE YOU TAKING RESPONSIBILITY OR NOT?!
DECIDE THAT FIRST!!!

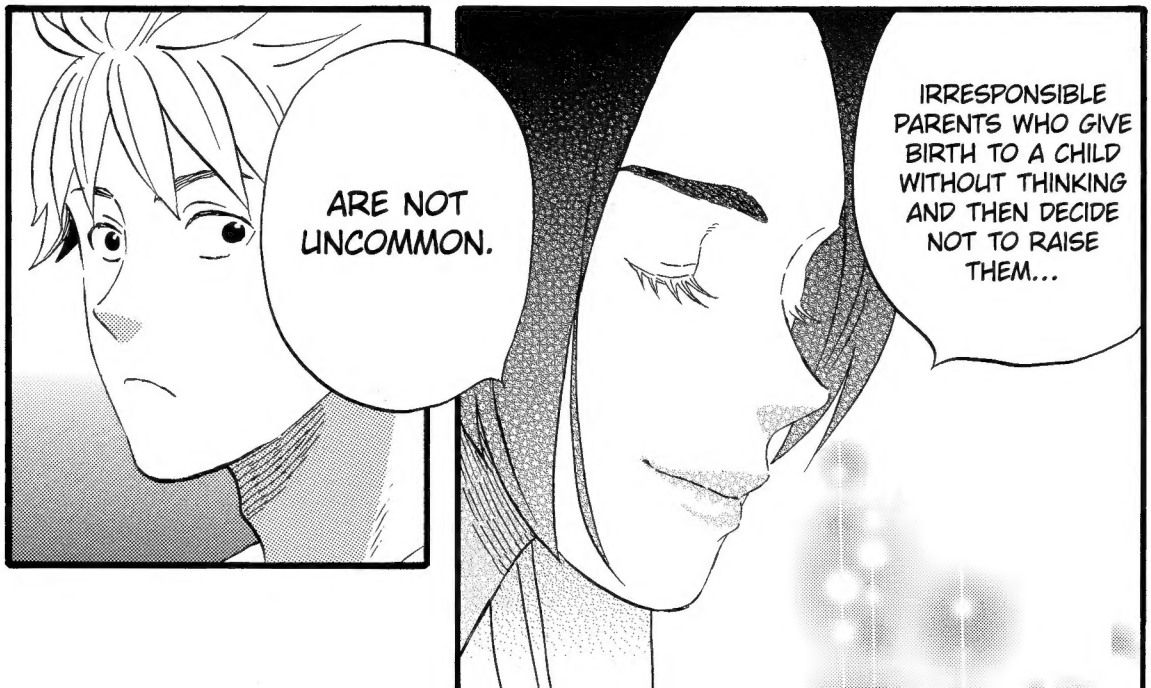


WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE THE CHILD IN.
THAT'S A GIVEN.

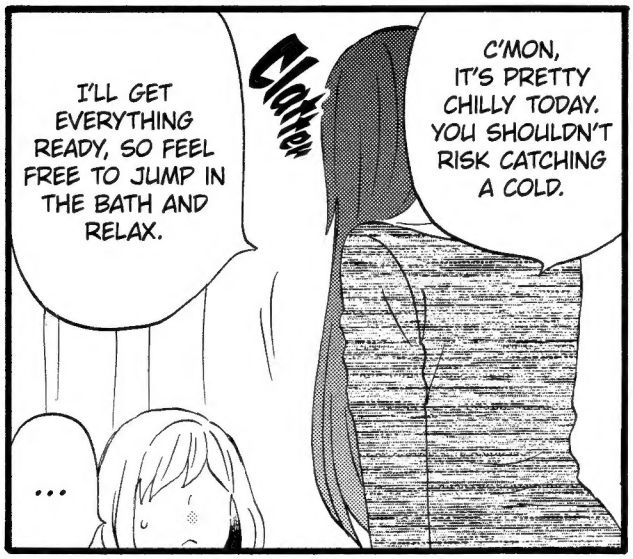

IF YOU NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING, JUST ASK KIRISHIMA-KUN.
ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD LIVE COMFORTABLY HERE UNTIL THE BABY IS BORN.
HE'S THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THE HOUSE.

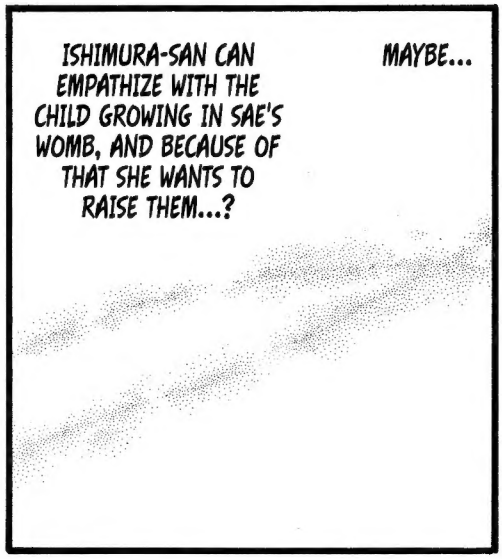

IF THERE WERE OTHER OPTIONS I'D CONSIDER THEM, BUT...
EVEN THOUGH THIS CHILD IS YOUR HUSBAND'S, HOW CAN YOU ACCEPT RAISING A COMPLETE STRANGER'S BABY SO WILLINGLY?!
W-WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

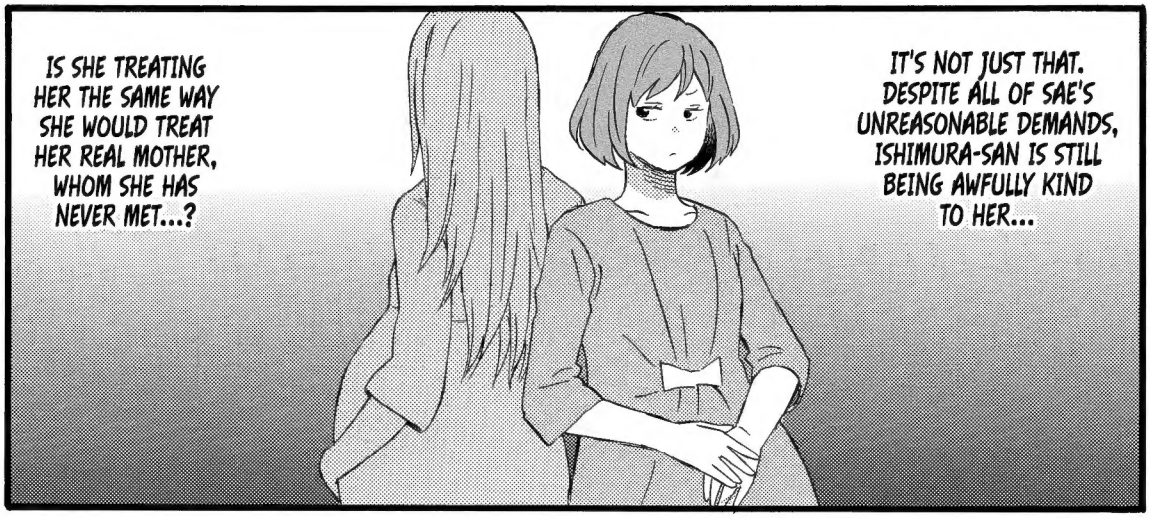

AS ALWAYS, MY WIFE IS DOING STRANGE THINGS...
Right?
IF THE MOTHER DOESN'T WANT TO RAISE THE CHILD, THEN KIRISHIMA-KUN, AS THE FATHER, MUST DO IT.

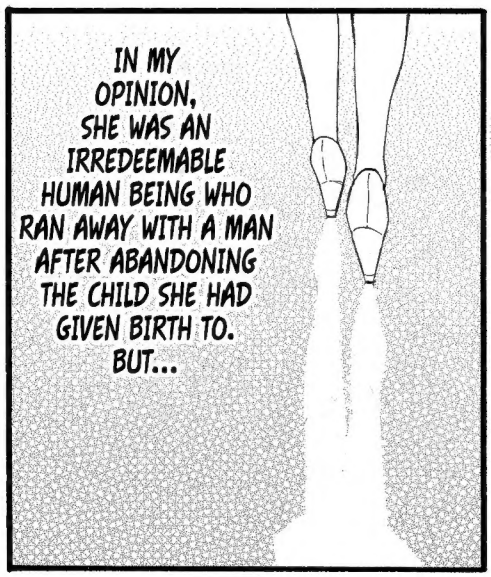

ARE NOT UNCOMMON.
IRRESPONSIBLE PARENTS WHO GIVE BIRTH TO A CHILD WITHOUT THINKING AND THEN DECIDE NOT TO RAISE THEM...

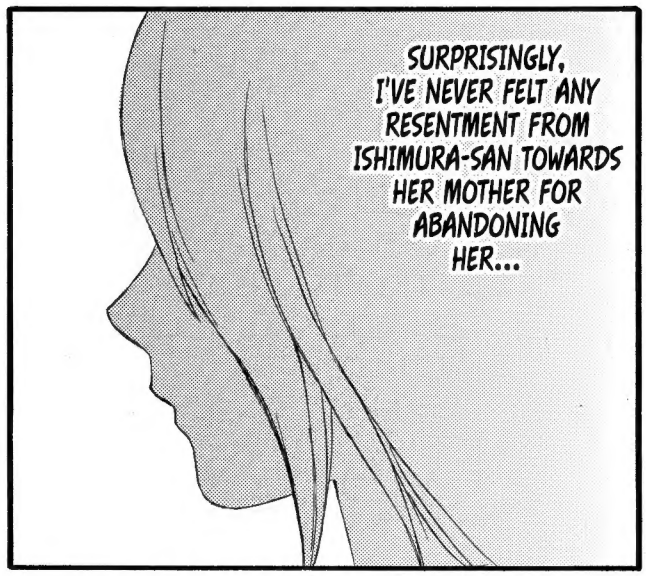
COULD ISHIMURA-SAN BE REFERRING... TO HER BIOLOGICAL MOTHER?
AND WHERE MISTREATMENT OR ABUSE MAY OCCUR.
IT'S BETTER TO RAISE THE CHILD OURSELVES RATHER THAN FORCE THEM TO GROW UP IN AN ENVIRONMENT DEVOID OF THE RIGHT CONDITIONS FOR CHILD REARING...

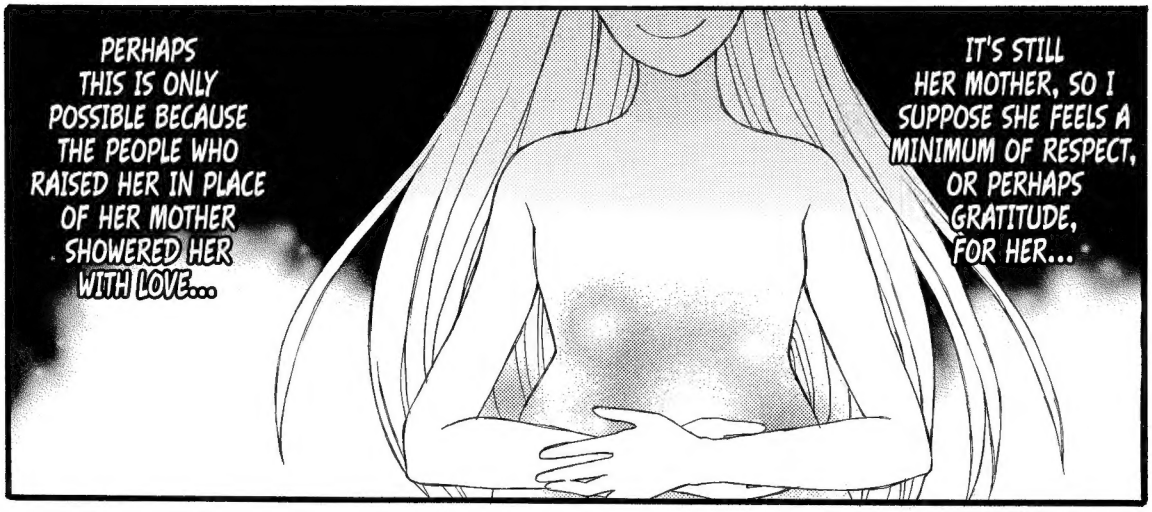

I'LL GET EVERYTHING READY, SO FEEL FREE TO JUMP IN THE BATH AND RELAX.
Clatter
C'MON, IT'S PRETTY CHILLY TODAY. YOU SHOULDN'T RISK CATCHING A COLD.
...


ISHIMURA-SAN CAN EMPATHIZE WITH THE CHILD GROWING IN SAE'S WOMB, AND BECAUSE OF THAT SHE WANTS TO RAISE THEM...?
MAYBE...


IS SHE TREATING HER THE SAME WAY SHE WOULD TREAT HER REAL MOTHER, WHOM SHE HAS NEVER MET...?
IT'S NOT JUST THAT. DESPITE ALL OF SAE'S UNREASONABLE DEMANDS, ISHIMURA-SAN IS STILL BEING AWFULLY KIND TO HER...

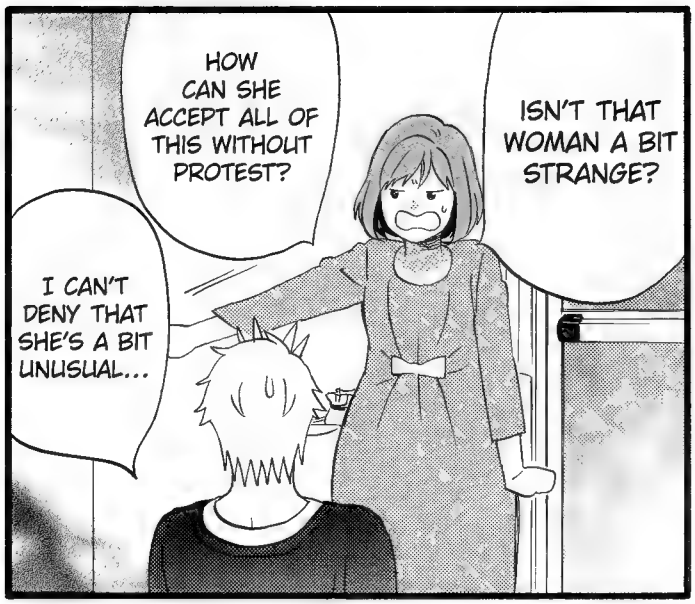

IN MY OPINION, SHE WAS AN IRREDEEMABLE HUMAN BEING WHO RAN AWAY WITH A MAN AFTER ABANDONING THE CHILD SHE HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO. BUT...

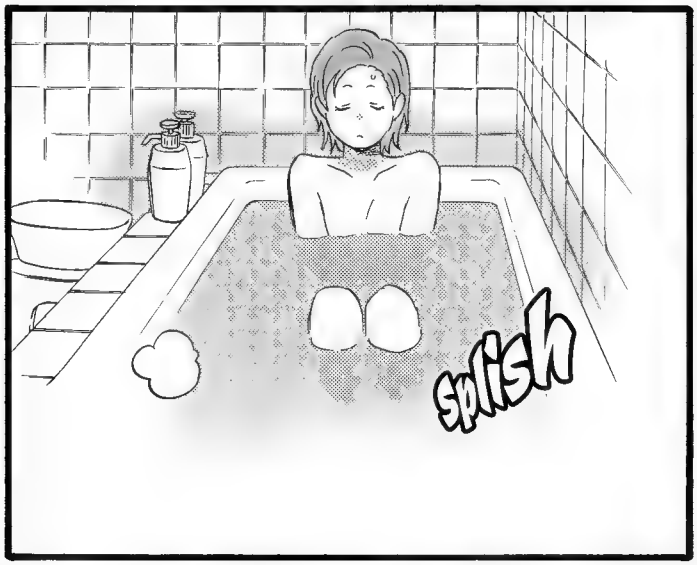

SURPRISINGLY, I'VE NEVER FELT ANY RESENTMENT FROM ISHIMURA-SAN TOWARDS HER MOTHER FOR ABANDONING HER...


PERHAPS THIS IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE WHO RAISED HER IN PLACE OF HER MOTHER SHOWERED HER WITH LOVE...
IT'S STILL HER MOTHER, SO I SUPPOSE SHE FEELS A MINIMUM OF RESPECT, OR PERHAPS GRATITUDE, FOR HER...

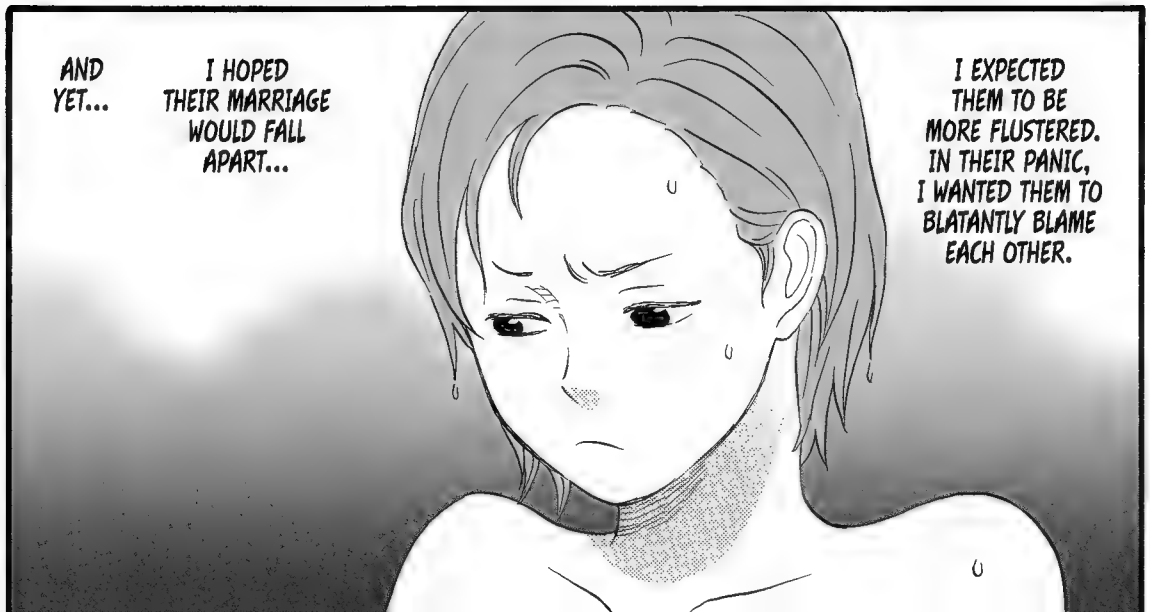
...
DON'T FEEL SHY ABOUT USING SKIN LOTION AND ALL THE OTHER STUFF.
HERE'S A TOWEL. ISHIMURA-SAN SAID SHE'D LEND YOU A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.

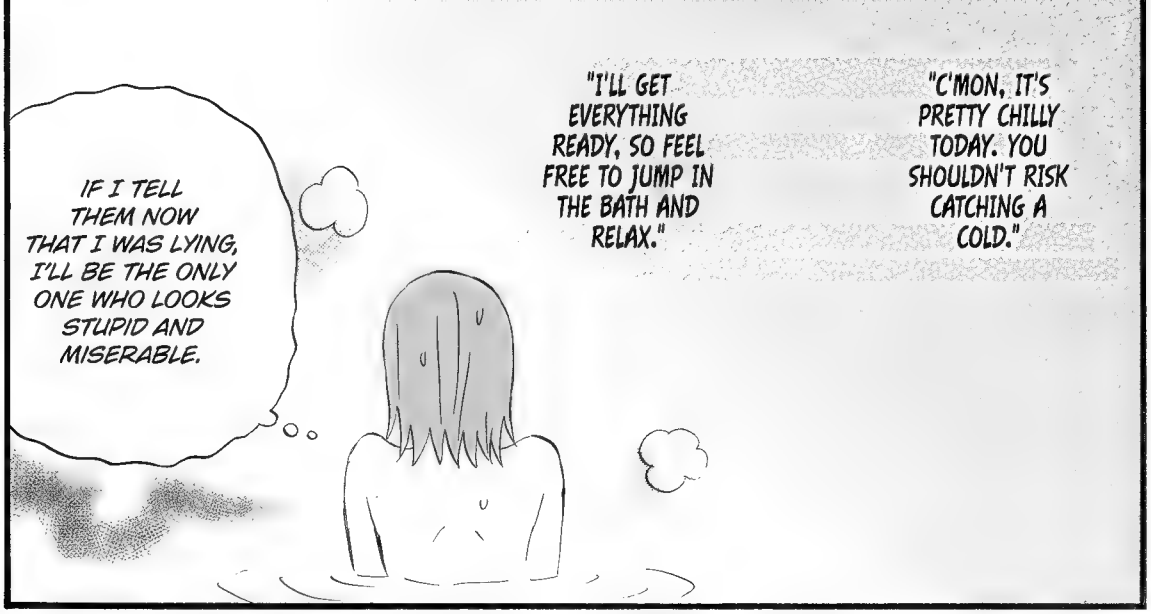
DOES SHE SERIOUSLY WANT TO RAISE OUR CHILD?
I THINK SO. I BELIEVE I'LL BE THE ONE DOING MOST OF THE WORK, BUT...

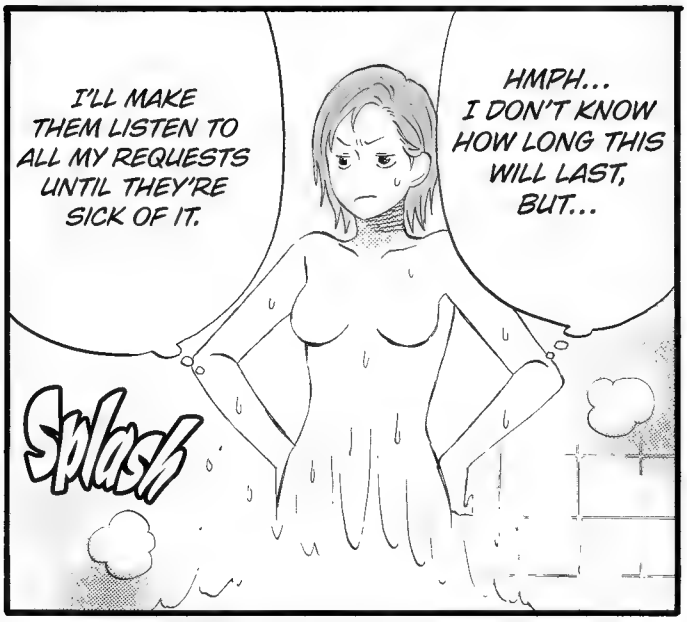

HOW CAN SHE ACCEPT ALL OF THIS WITHOUT PROTEST?
ISN'T THAT WOMAN A BIT STRANGE?
I CAN'T DENY THAT SHE'S A BIT UNUSUAL...


splish

...
KNOWING HER, IT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME THAT SHE'S OKAY WITH THIS.

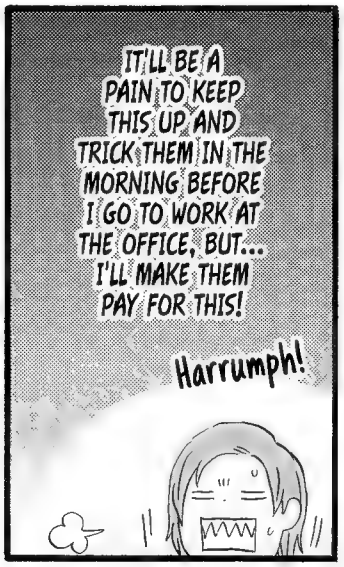

AND YET...
I HOPED THEIR MARRIAGE WOULD FALL APART...
I EXPECTED THEM TO BE MORE FLUSTERED. IN THEIR PANIC, I WANTED THEM TO BLATANTLY BLAME EACH OTHER.

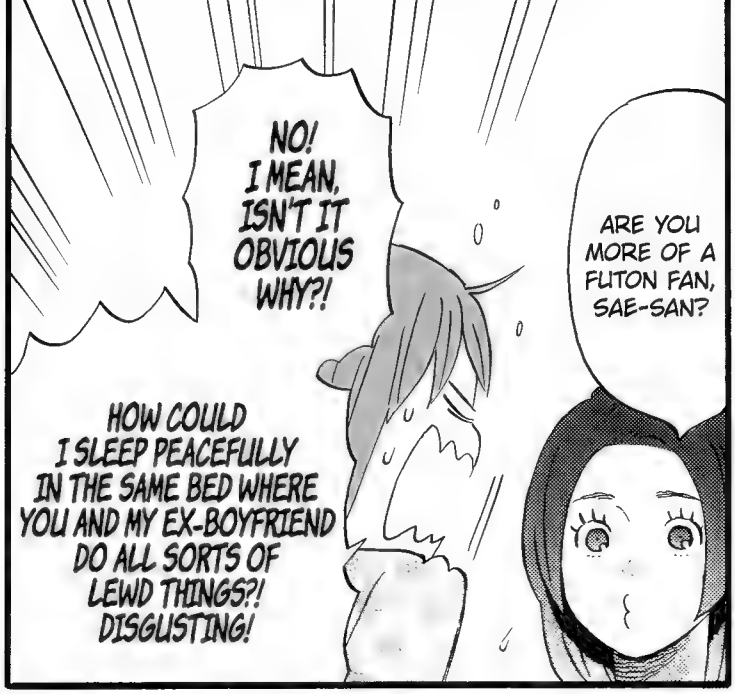

IF I TELL THEM NOW THAT I WAS LYING, I'LL BE THE ONLY ONE WHO LOOKS STUPID AND MISERABLE.
"I'LL GET EVERYTHING READY, SO FEEL FREE TO JUMP IN THE BATH AND RELAX."
"C'MON, IT'S PRETTY CHILLY TODAY. YOU SHOULDN'T RISK CATCHING A COLD."


I'LL MAKE THEM LISTEN TO ALL MY REQUESTS UNTIL THEY'RE SICK OF IT.
HMPH... I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THIS WILL LAST, BUT...
Splash

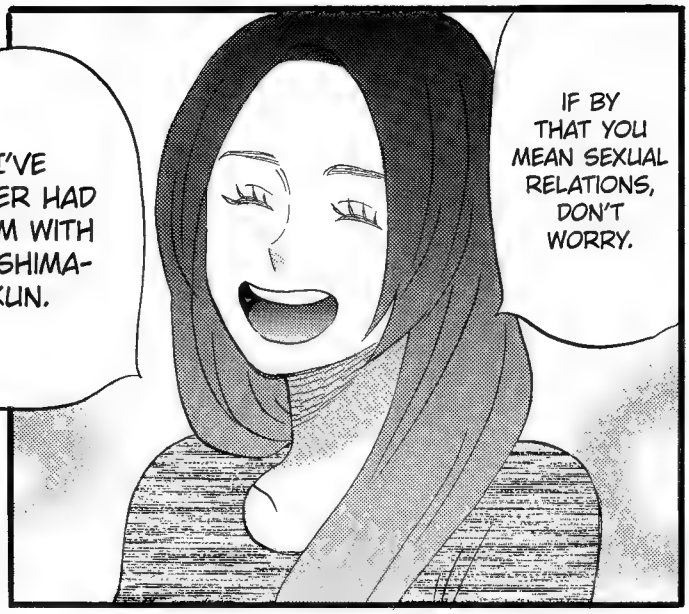
I ONLY WANTED TO CAUSE THEM A LITTLE TROUBLE, SO WHY DID IT TURN AGAINST ME?!

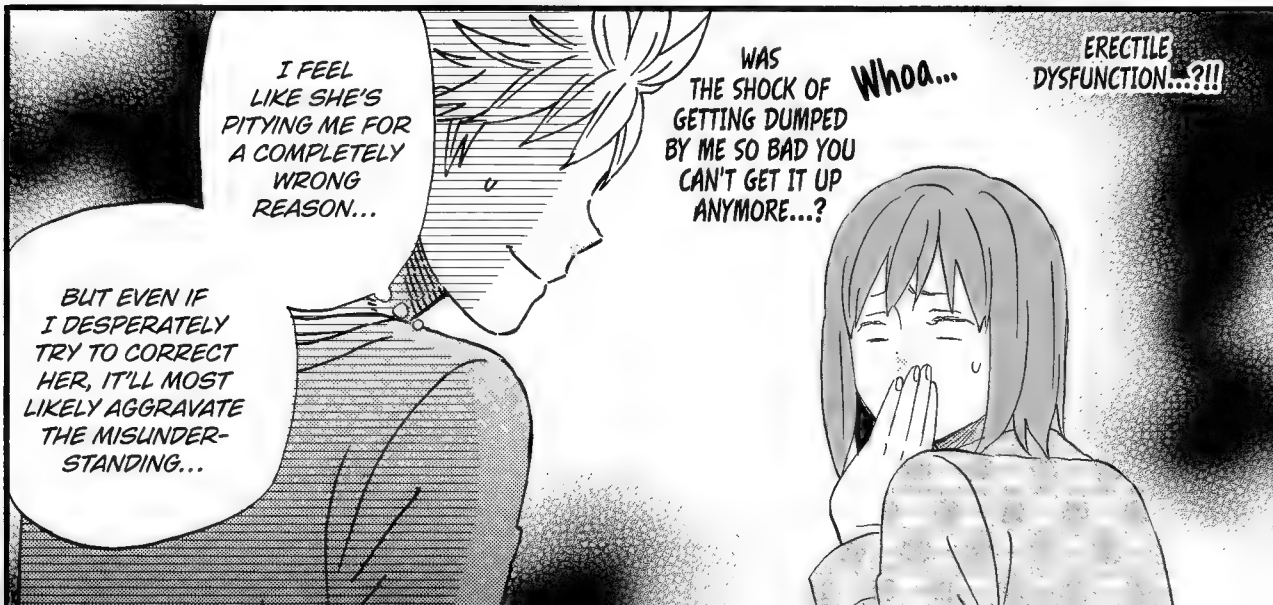
I DON'T WANNA SLEEP IN THIS BED.

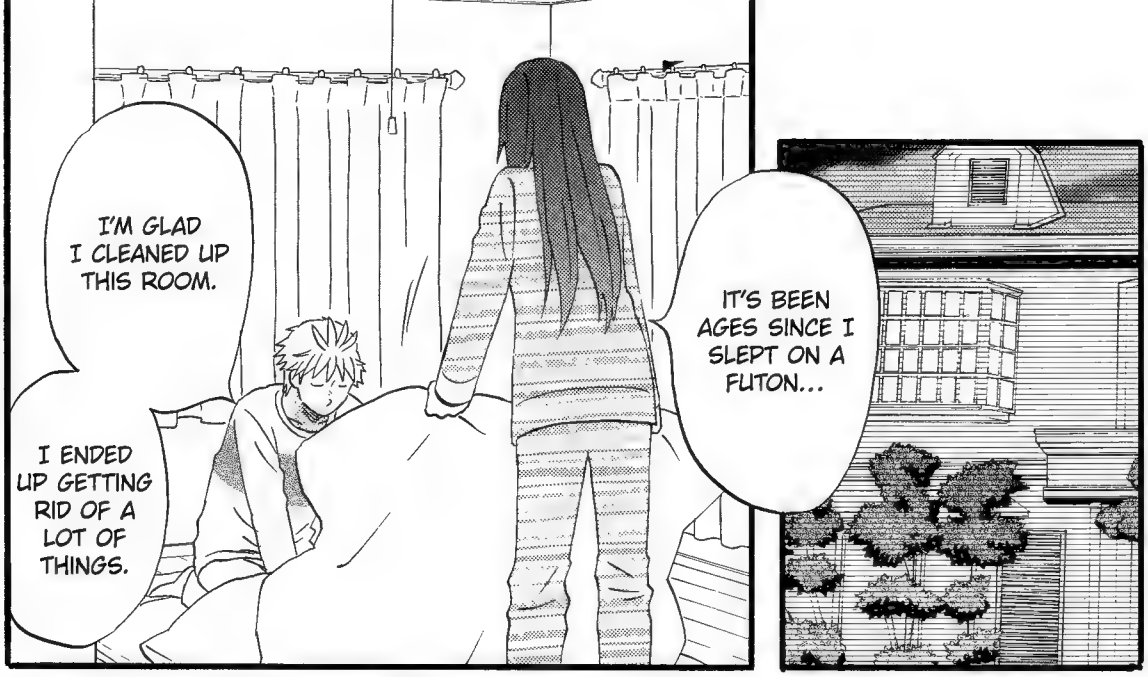

IT'LL BE A PAIN TO KEEP THIS UP AND TRICK THEM IN THE MORNING BEFORE I GO TO WORK AT THE OFFICE, BUT... I'LL MAKE THEM PAY FOR THIS!
Harrumph!

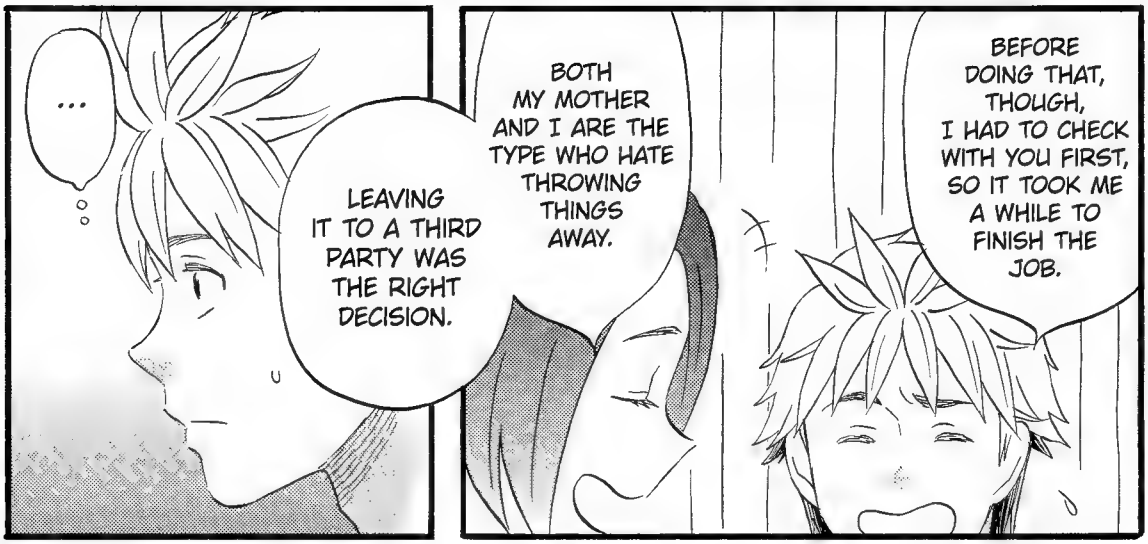

ARE YOU MORE OF A FUTON FAN, SAE-SAN?
NO! I MEAN, ISN'T IT OBVIOUS WHY?!
HOW COULD I SLEEP PEACEFULLY IN THE SAME BED WHERE YOU AND MY EX-BOYFRIEND DO ALL SORTS OF LEWD THINGS?! DISGUSTING!

HEY... ISHIMURA-SAN...!
...


I'VE NEVER HAD THEM WITH KIRISHIMA-KUN.
IF BY THAT YOU MEAN SEXUAL RELATIONS, DON'T WORRY.


I FEEL LIKE SHE'S PITYING ME FOR A COMPLETELY WRONG REASON...
BUT EVEN IF I DESPERATELY TRY TO CORRECT HER, IT'LL MOST LIKELY AGGRAVATE THE MISUNDER-STANDING...
WAS THE SHOCK OF GETTING DUMPED BY ME SO BAD YOU CAN'T GET IT UP ANYMORE...?
Whoa...
ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION...?!!


I'M GLAD I CLEANED UP THIS ROOM.
I ENDED UP GETTING RID OF A LOT OF THINGS.
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I SLEPT ON A FUTON...

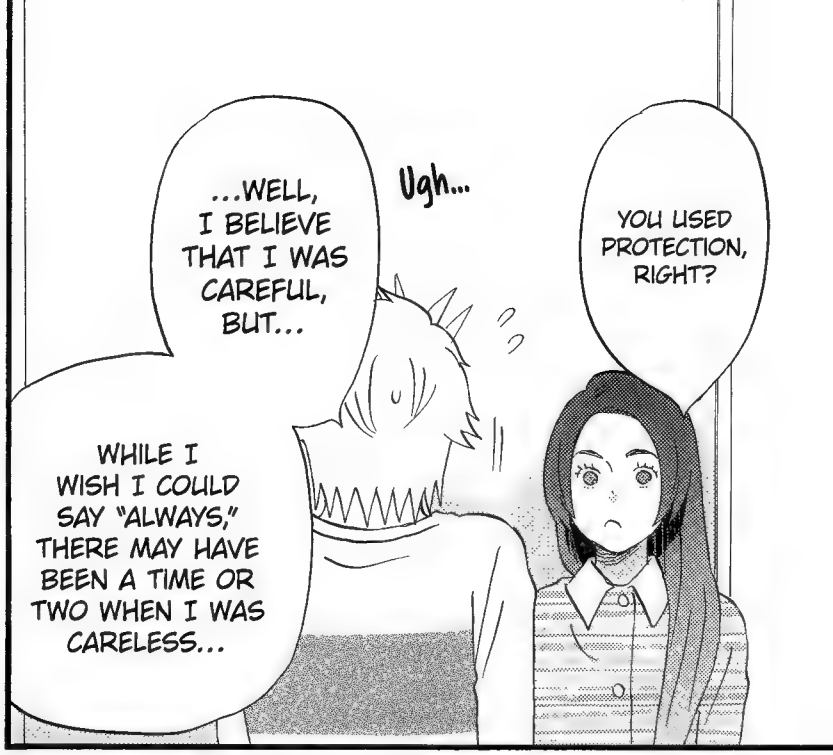

...
LEAVING IT TO A THIRD PARTY WAS THE RIGHT DECISION.
BOTH MY MOTHER AND I ARE THE TYPE WHO HATE THROWING THINGS AWAY.
BEFORE DOING THAT, THOUGH, I HAD TO CHECK WITH YOU FIRST, SO IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO FINISH THE JOB.

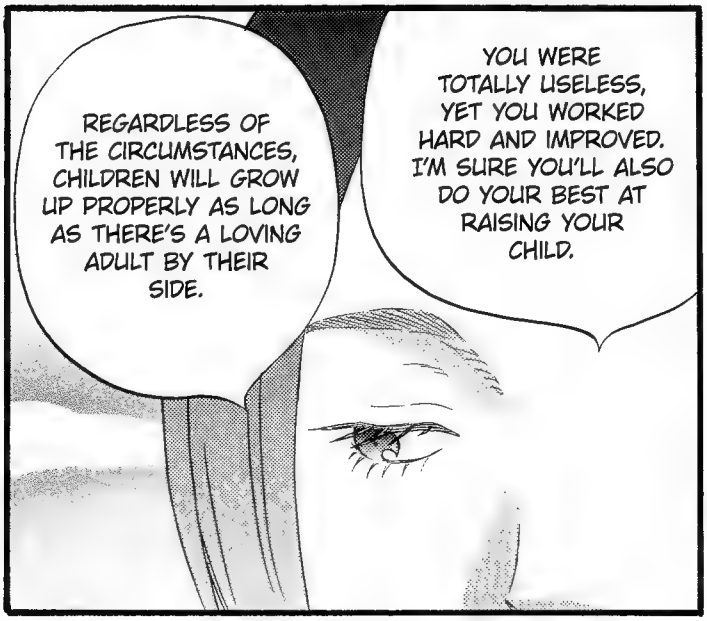
IT'S OKAY... WHAT'S DONE IS DONE.

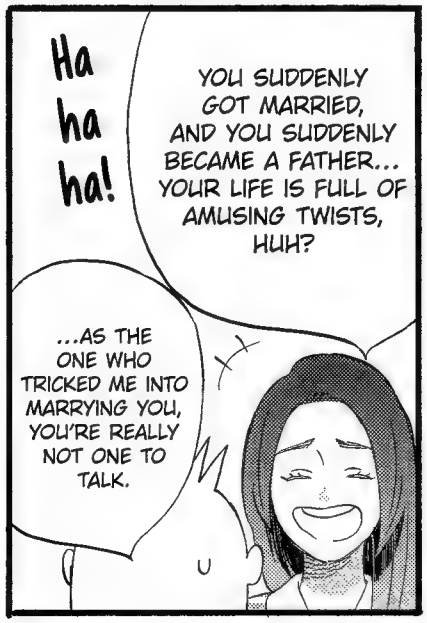
I'M TRULY SORRY ABOUT THE CHILD...

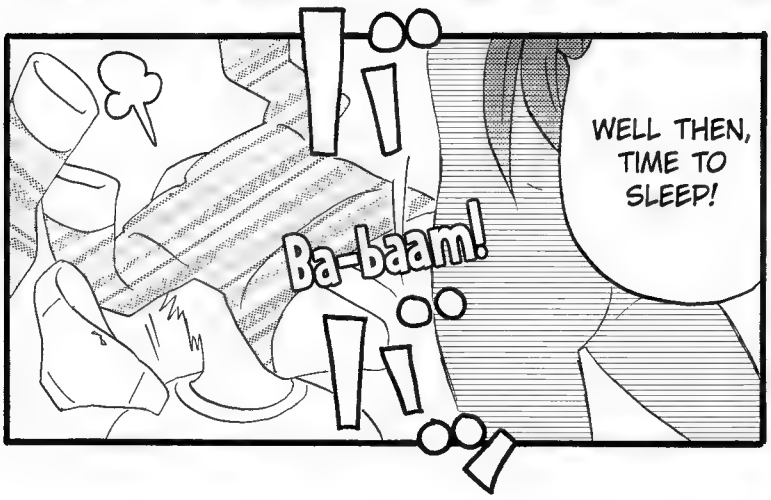
UM... I COULDN'T SAY IT IN FRONT OF MY EX, BUT...

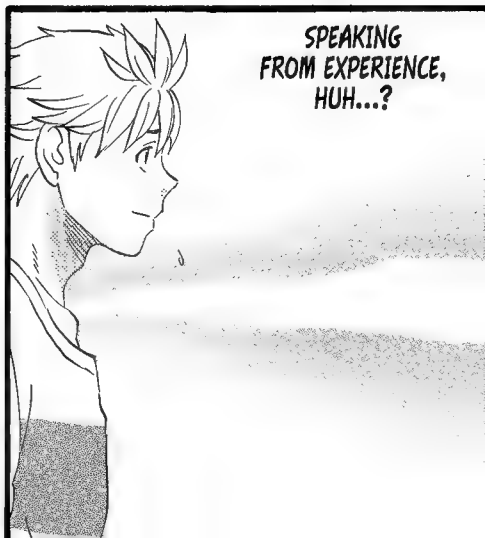
THIS IS SO SUDDEN. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BECOME A FATHER LIKE THIS...
HEH HEH HEH!


YOU USED PROTECTION, RIGHT?
Ugh...
...WELL, I BELIEVE THAT I WAS CAREFUL, BUT...
WHILE I WISH I COULD SAY "ALWAYS," THERE MAY HAVE BEEN A TIME OR TWO WHEN I WAS CARELESS...

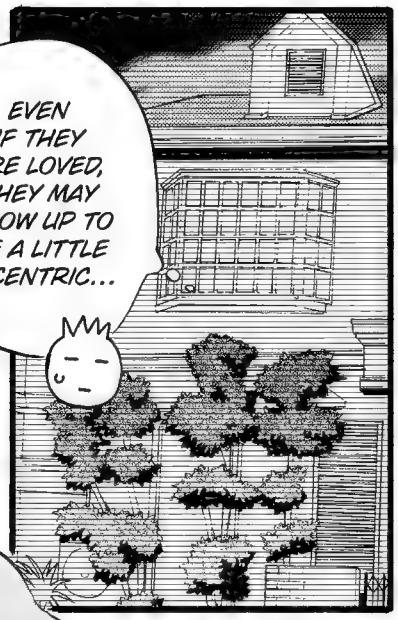

YOU WERE TOTALLY USELESS, YET YOU WORKED HARD AND IMPROVED. I'M SURE YOU'LL ALSO DO YOUR BEST AT RAISING YOUR CHILD.
REGARDLESS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES, CHILDREN WILL GROW UP PROPERLY AS LONG AS THERE'S A LOVING ADULT BY THEIR SIDE.


YOU SUDDENLY GOT MARRIED, AND YOU SUDDENLY BECAME A FATHER... YOUR LIFE IS FULL OF AMUSING TWISTS, HUH?
Ha ha ha!
...AS THE ONE WHO TRICKED ME INTO MARRYING YOU, YOU'RE REALLY NOT ONE TO TALK.


WELL THEN, TIME TO SLEEP!
Ba-baam!


SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE, HUH...?

SAIGA GENERAL HOSPITAL


EVEN IF THEY ARE LOVED, THEY MAY GROW UP TO BE A LITTLE ECCENTRIC...

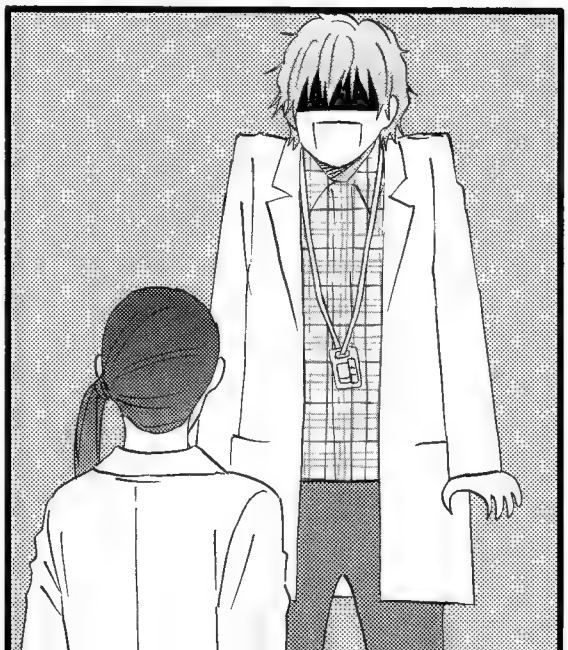
...
...YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SECOND-HAND BABY GOODS?

Hm...
I'LL TRY ASKING SOMEONE ELSE, THEN.
...

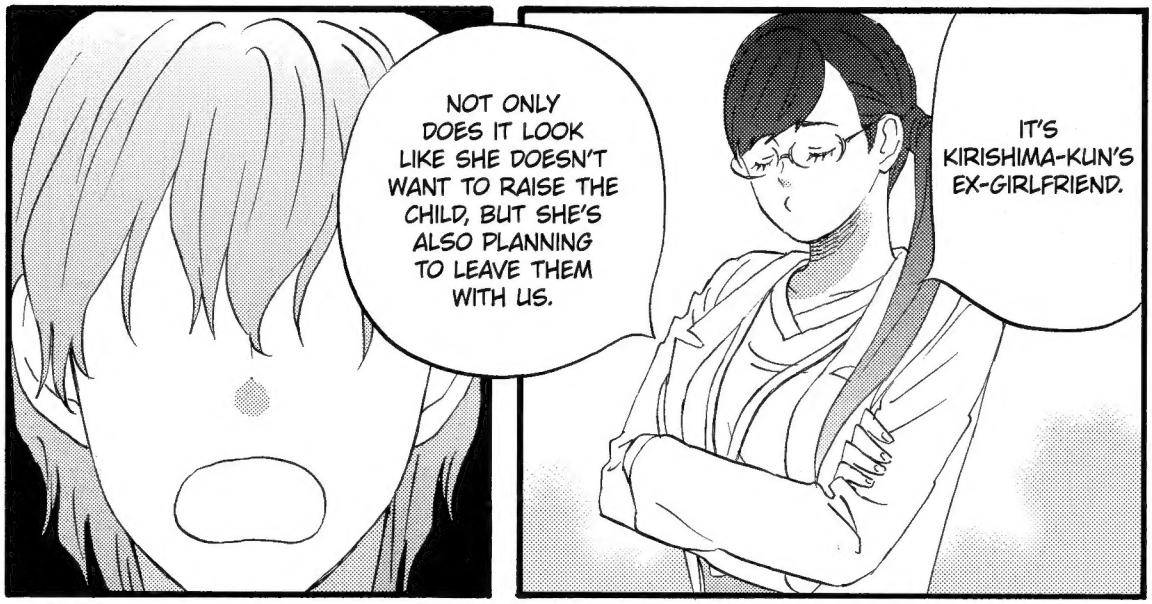
I DO HAVE A YOUNGER SISTER, BUT SHE ISN'T MARRIED YET.
SAIGA-SENSEI, DO YOU HAVE ANY NEPHEWS OR NIECES?
I SEE...

THAT'S RIGHT.
I-ISHIMURA-SENSEI, DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU ARE...
Clatter
W-WHY DO YOU NEED THOSE?

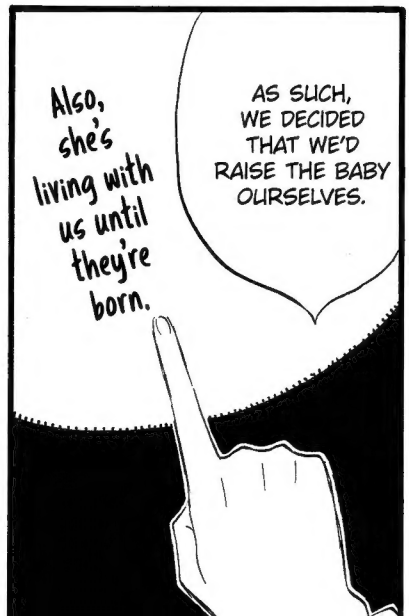
THERE'LL BE A BABY IN THE FAMILY SOON!



YEAH. I'M NOT THE ONE WHO'S PREGNANT.
"SOON"?!
IF YOU WERE EXPECTING A CHILD, IT WOULDN'T MAKE SENSE FOR YOU TO SAY "SOON"...!!
...NO, HOLD ON! SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE...!


NOT ONLY DOES IT LOOK LIKE SHE DOESN'T WANT TO RAISE THE CHILD, BUT SHE'S ALSO PLANNING TO LEAVE THEM WITH US.
IT'S KIRISHIMA-KUN'S EX-GIRLFRIEND.

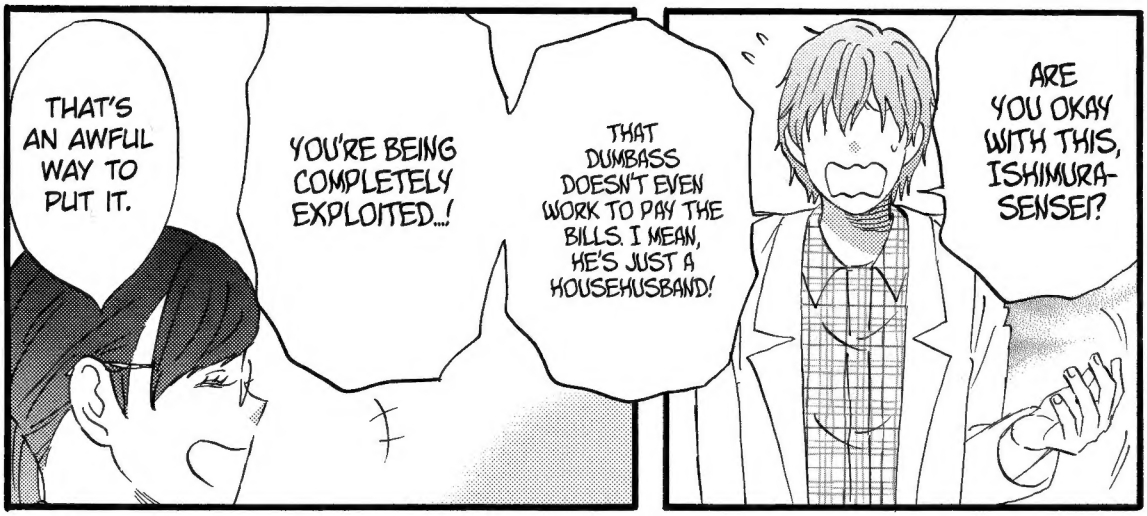
"THAT"?
THAT...

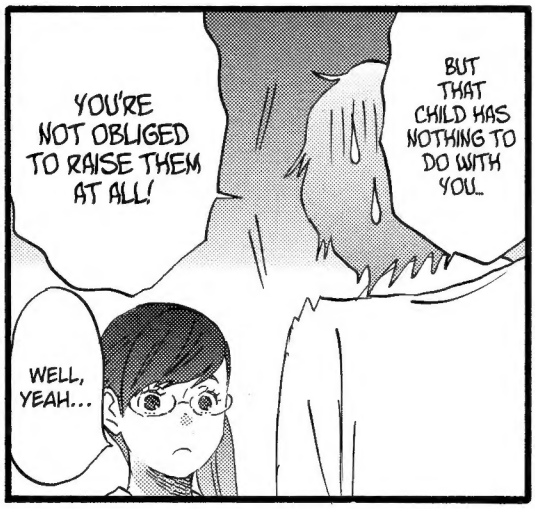

Also, she's living with us until they're born.
AS SUCH, WE DECIDED THAT WE'D RAISE THE BABY OURSELVES.

...YOU SURE CAN BE FOUL-MOUTHED AT TIMES, SAIGA-SENSEI...

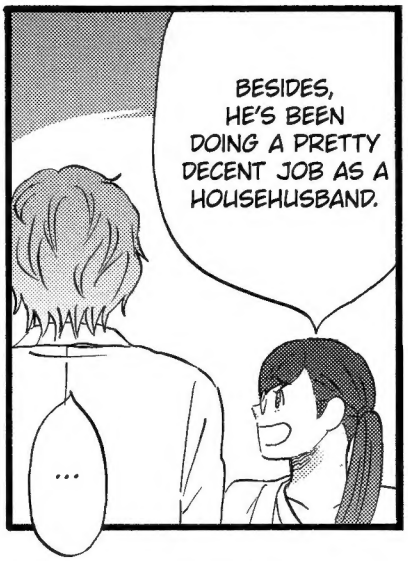
That frigging bastard!

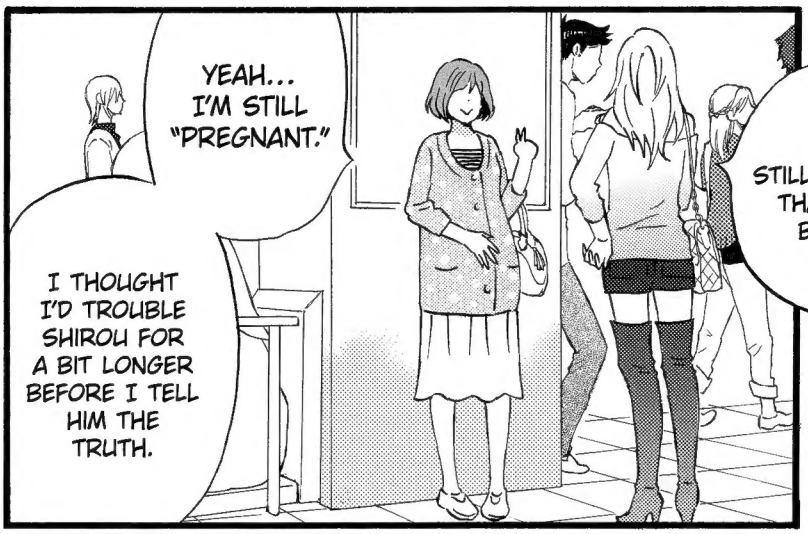
THAT DUMBASS IS REALLY DOING AS HE PLEASES!!



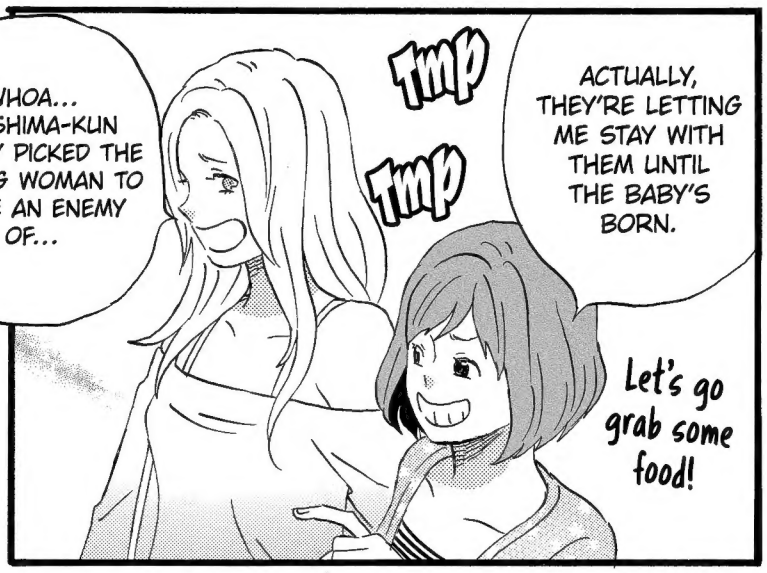


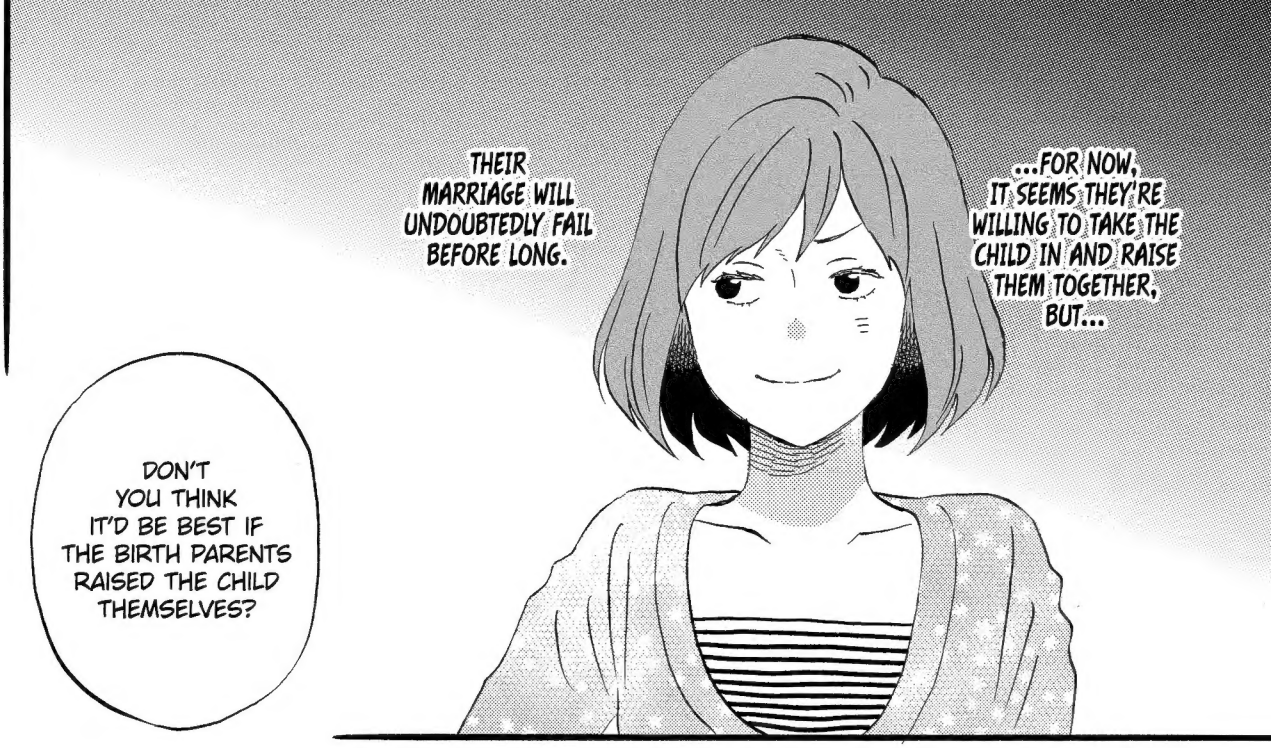
Siiiigh...
HOLD ON...
WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I CAME OVER TO YOUR HOUSE TONIGHT?


BESIDES, HE'S BEEN DOING A PRETTY DECENT JOB AS A HOUSEHUSBAND.
...

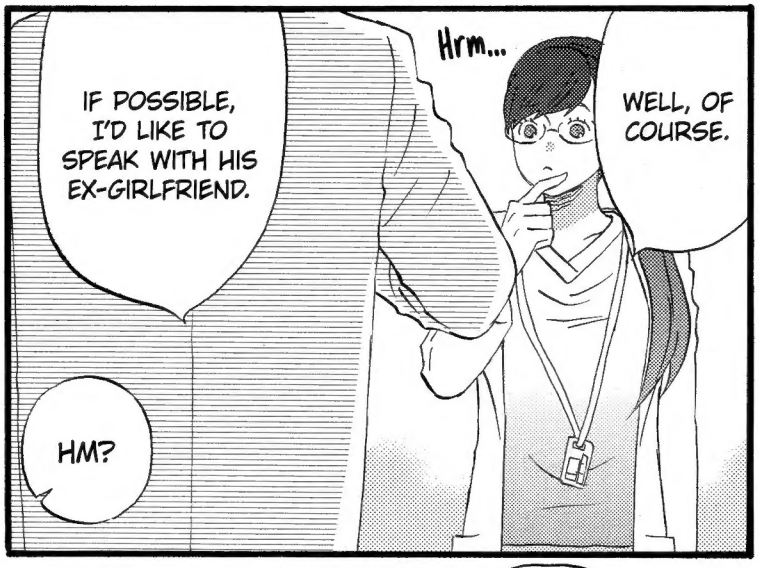

YEAH... I'M STILL "PREGNANT."
I THOUGHT I'D TROUBLE SHIROU FOR A BIT LONGER BEFORE I TELL HIM THE TRUTH.
OH? STILL WEARING THAT FAKE BELLY?

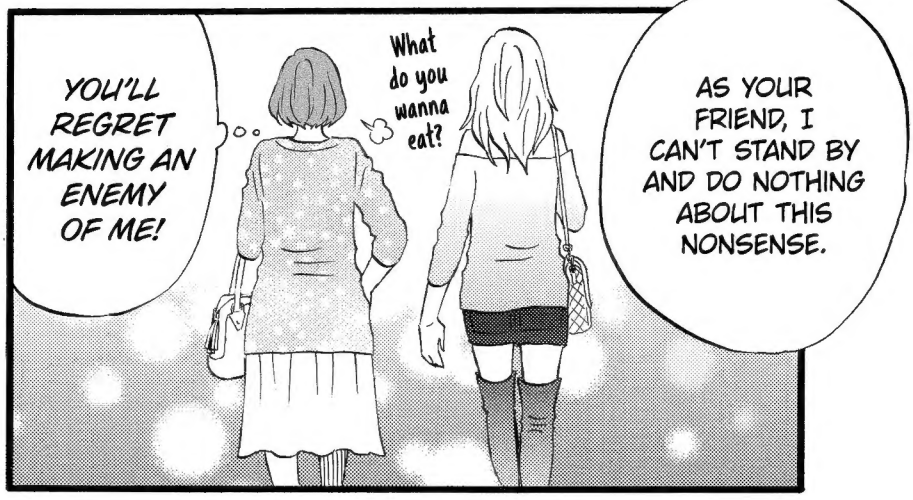
MWA HA HA!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW THIS STORY ENDS. HA HA!


WHOA... KIRISHIMA-KUN REALLY PICKED THE WRONG WOMAN TO MAKE AN ENEMY OF...
Tmp
Tmp
ACTUALLY, THEY'RE LETTING ME STAY WITH THEM UNTIL THE BABY'S BORN.
Let's go grab some food!


THEIR MARRIAGE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FAIL BEFORE LONG.
...FOR NOW, IT SEEMS THEY'RE WILLING TO TAKE THE CHILD IN AND RAISE THEM TOGETHER, BUT...
DON'T YOU THINK IT'D BE BEST IF THE BIRTH PARENTS RAISED THE CHILD THEMSELVES?

I'LL CONVINCE HER.


IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH HIS EX-GIRLFRIEND.
HM?
Hrm...
WELL, OF COURSE.


YOU'LL REGRET MAKING AN ENEMY OF ME!
What do you wanna eat?
AS YOUR FRIEND, I CAN'T STAND BY AND DO NOTHING ABOUT THIS NONSENSE.